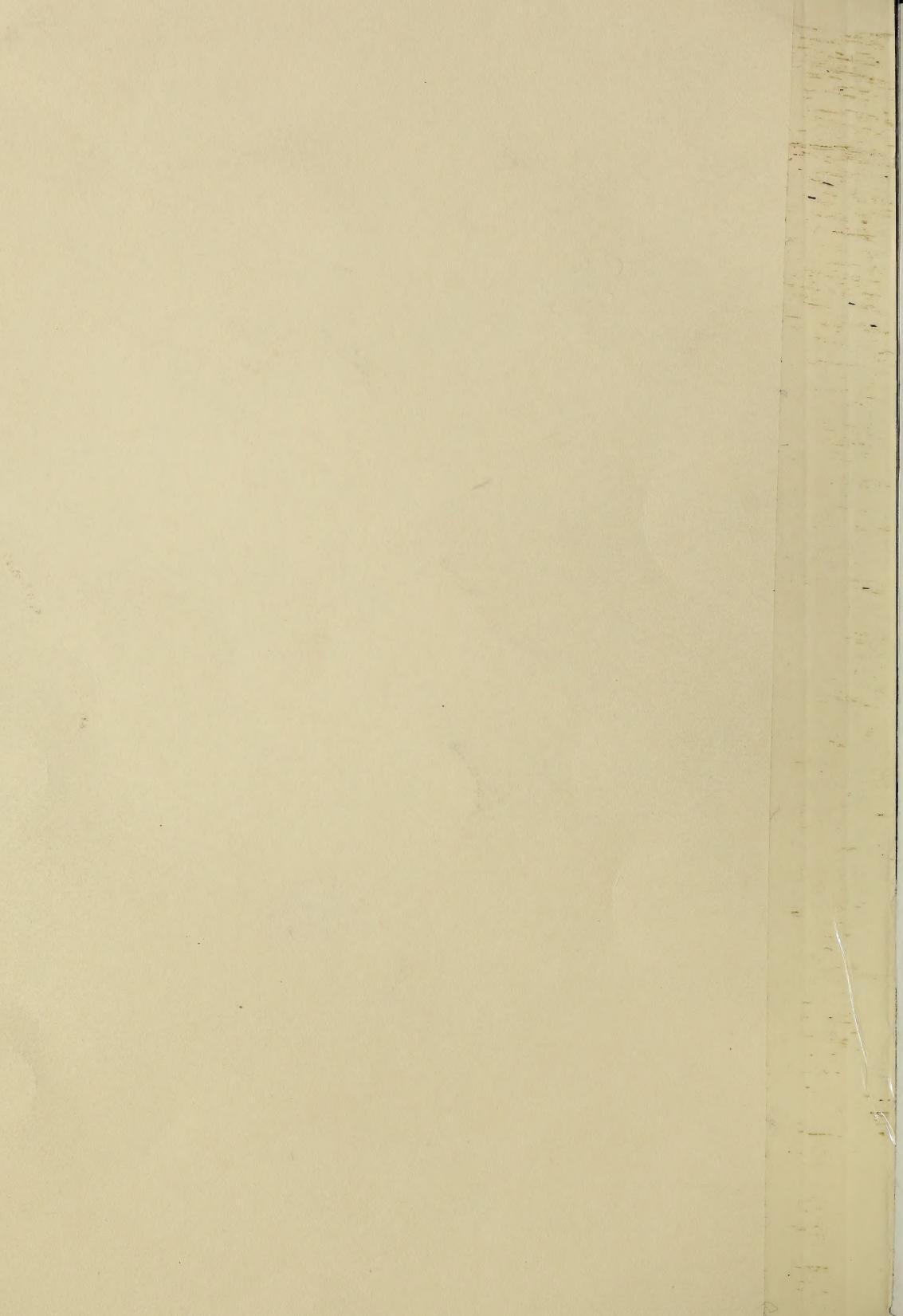


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U. S. Department of Agriculture

Descriptive Catalog of

STRAWBERRIES

Spring 1912



Blue Grass Nurseries

LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

H. F. Hillenmeyer & Sons, Proprietors

Telephone 279

A. B. MORSE CO., ST. JOSEPH, MICH.



ANNOUNCEMENT

DURING the many years in which we have made strawberry plant growing one of our specialties there have been few that were more severe. The extreme high temperature during May—just after plants were set—and a continuous drouth until August caused a very uneven stand. However, the latter part of the season was quite favorable, and those that had withstood the elements through attention sent out a bountiful crop of plants of the highest quality. At best the supply all over the country is short and prices will be somewhat higher. We venture the opinion that many varieties will be sold out before the season opens. We therefore advise placing your order at once; we will ship at the proper season or hold until instructed.

We believe our plants as true to name as any; have always exercised the greatest care in having them such. A member of the firm has always, personally, supervised the planting and, when fruiting, we have never noticed a mix. Equal care is also given when digging and packing. From the time they are set in our propagating beds to the time your order leaves our grounds, every precaution is taken to have them as represented. We guarantee them to be true to name, but, being human, like other people, we sometimes make mistakes, and when they do occur, we stand ready at all times to replace or refund the purchase price. The fact that we have never been called upon to do so is undoubtedly an evidence of care and should be appreciated by prospective purchasers.

We always ship by express or interurban unless instructed to the contrary. These are best. Our wagons make two or more deliveries each day and plants are often on carriers six hours after digging. We get them off promptly.

Lexington affords shipping facilities equalled by few cities in the country; with four railroads radiating in each direction and a net work of interurban lines connecting central Kentucky, we have all that is desired. Express companies handle our consignments promptly.

A certificate of inspection has been issued our nurseries. Our plants are free from disease.

Immediately when plants are received, unpack from top side. The mark pin indicates variety below. If ground is not in condition, spread bunches on your cellar floor, and cover with a moist sack, but do not wet plants. They will keep in good condition for ten days or more.

In the past we have always dug our plants by hand, but last season we used a digger drawn by four horses, which worked with such satisfaction that we shall use it exclusively in the future. We think we are correct when we say that it is the first of its kind ever used anywhere. It digs and shakes the plants, getting all the roots, and is an item in enabling us to furnish our customers the best. When dug they are immediately placed in sacks so as not to be exposed to the air; each sack is labeled and taken to our counting room. Here they are tied into bunches of 26, and usually packed as fast as counted. We never keep any old plants on hand and our customers may rest assured that they will receive fresh, unexposed stock.

We pack in light boxes or crates and separate the varieties by a layer of packing material over which is a brace or mark pin which indicates the kind below. **ALWAYS OPEN AND UNPACK FROM TOP OF BOX.** The tag is on this side. The above method further excludes any air and the plants usually open up as fresh as when dug, and in perfect condition.



Strawberries and How to Grow Them

There are few fruits, territory as the straw-

if any, which succeed over such wide berry. They may be grown anywhere by almost any one. To the beginner, they afford an exceedingly favorable opportunity; to the owner of a small back yard, delightful, healthy recreation with recompense; to the specialist, a means of livelihood. In other words, it is the fruit of the masses. They should form a part of every

garden. Plants reasonable, easily cultivated, early to produce returns, and reliable. Why shouldn't fine, highly colored strawberries for canning, preserving and to serve with cream find a ready and welcome place when they may so easily be had? Fruit, more fruit

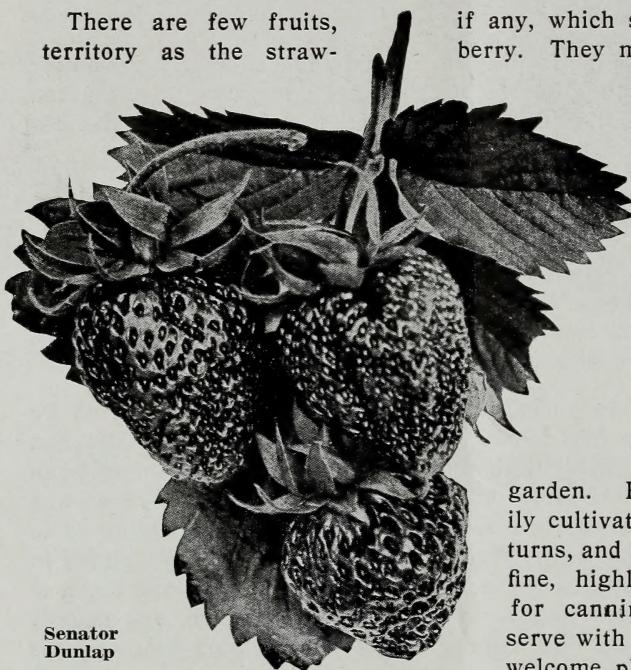
and better fruit are ideas well worth considering.

THE SOIL.

Any soil that will grow potatoes will also produce strawberries. They are by no means exacting. Plow early to conserve the moisture; pulverize thoroughly before planting; care for as directed, and "Patience will bring a perfect reward." However, let us caution thus:—Never plant immediately following sod; the white grub usually so prevalent thereafter will frequently destroy almost an entire bed.

PLANTING AND CULTIVATING.

Distances for setting vary, but as a general rule, rows four feet apart and plants $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet in same are satisfactory. This will give ample space for passage ways which are essential in harvesting large crops of berries. About 7,000 plants are required per acre when planted as above. However, when space is limited, three feet by one foot may be used with success. When ready to set, the roots should be shortened one-third and dipped into water, or, better still, into thin mud. The bunches should then be opened and plants dropped at distance desired. When planting, the roots should be placed straight down and spreading just a little. The same



Senator
Dunlap

methods used with cabbage or tomatoes are satisfactory. Be sure that the earth is pressed **firmly about the roots** and the crown is just above the surface level. If too deep, they may rot; if too high, they may die.

After plants have commenced to grow, cultivation must be started. Do all that is possible with horse tools without disturbing the roots. Work space between plants with hoe. When the former is not permissible, all work may be done by hand. The ground should be stirred after each rain or about every two weeks. Never let a single weed get to any size. They are the worst enemies of the strawberry. They may be destroyed a hundred at a stroke when small, but are frequently difficult to eradicate if given a start. Keep the strawberry patch clean. It is essential. Often during a wet season when cared for as above, young plants become too thick. Six or eight well developed plants from each mother are sufficient and all others should be cut off as new runners appear. Don't let them get matted like sod and expect a full crop. Under such conditions, it is impossible. After the growing season, about December or when the ground is frozen sufficiently to hold up a wagon, there should be a thin coating of straw scattered over the plants. This is to protect from alternate freezing, to keep the fruit clean and to hold the moisture. These things done, your labor should be well rewarded.

OLD BEDS.

After fruiting, they should be cut with scythe or machine as close as possible. Let the leaves dry for a day or so, then burn where they lay. This will destroy all insects, spores, etc. Then a small plow will be found useful. Turn furrows to the middles, leaving only six or eight inches of the original row; work thoroughly with the rows, then harrow crosswise until the field is level. It will not look like a strawberry patch but a seed bed. Within a week, new growth will commence and cultivation should be renewed as during the previous season. Beds will often last three years under this treatment, and frequently the second gives the best fruit.

SELECTION OF VARIETIES—PERFECT AND IMPERFECT.

Some strawberries, when planted alone, will not produce fruit. There are the perfect and imperfect flowering kinds. The former will bear anywhere but the latter need some of the perfect planted near to fertilize them. Haverland and Bubach are imperfect and need something like Tennessee planted near to make them fruitful. Usually, one row of perfect to three or four imperfect give satisfactory results. Both kinds should always be planted together. After each variety we indicate the sex. Our customers may rest assured that we shall send enough of each to make a fruitful bed where the selection is left to us.

VARIETIES.

You will notice that our list of kinds is not long. After thoroughly testing hundreds of varieties, we consider these the best among the best. You may plant any with confidence.



Haverland

Varieties of Strawberries

Aroma (Per.)—An ideal late berry that is gradually supplanting the Gandy. Large, firm and of good color.

Gandy (Per.)—A standard by which other berries of its season have been measured. Blooms too late to be used as a fertilizer. Large, fine, good color; late.

Haverland (Imp.)—We consider it the best all-around strawberry we grow. Good for market and home use. If we could plant only two kinds, they would be Haverland and something to fertilize it. Berries long and pointed; medium to large; firm enough to ship; good color; early to mid-season.

Marie.—A seedling of Crescent. If plants are not too thick, it will produce an abundant crop of fine berries. Plants vigorous. Large, firm; mid-season.

Sample (Imp.)—We think Sample about as good as grows. A heavy bearer of even shaped, beautiful berries. Aroma and Dunlap are its best fertilizers. Extra large, good color, sweet. Late.

Sen. Dunlap (Per.)—Like Tennessee this variety should be kept in check as it is a very vigorous grower. Will withstand more severe weather than anything else. A success everywhere as a pollener. More plants grown than any other kind. "There's a reason." Good color and size; mid-season.

Tennessee (Per.)—This is the best perfect variety we have. Blooms over a long period and is hardy. We use it to fertilize all of the medium and early kinds. A rampant grower and will make too many plants if not held in check. Plant six inches farther apart than other kinds. Large fruit. Good quality; early.

OUR PRICES.

As stated in the beginning, prices are a little higher than usual, caused by the severe season, but when taking this into account they are reasonable. As the money paid for them is only a small portion of the investment, we think that the quality should be the first consideration.

We claim our plants as good as the best. Evidences of this are found in the fact that customers who bought of us 35 years ago are still ordering year after year. Our plants are priced as cheaply as we can grow and market them and at the same time furnish a legitimate profit.

NOT THE "CHEAPEST" AND WITHOUT A "PEDIGREE."

	Packing Charges		Packing Charges		
100	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.10	1,000	\$ 4.00	\$ 0.25
300	1.5015	5,000	15.0075
500	2.0020	10,000	30.00	1.50

There is no charge for packing when cash accompanies order; otherwise a packing charge will be added.

Please do not ask us to vary from this rule.

NOTICE.

These prices permit you to make a selection of varieties. You are not required to take a thousand of one kind to get the 1,000 rates. This is important when comparing other prices. From 300 to 1,000 plants are required—according to size of family.

READ THIS CAREFULLY BEFORE ORDERING.

This catalog abrogates all previous issues.

Prices are cash with order or satisfactory reference.

Send money by check, P. O. or express order, draft or registered letter.

Write name plainly and give shipping directions.

Our shipping season usually opens about the last of March and extends into May.

We do not sell plants in the Fall. It is a waste of time, money and energy.

We try to fill orders as received and can usually ship on any day requested. However, rain stops digging and as we never keep any plants on hand, it sometimes becomes impossible to meet our promise during a week of continuous bad weather. We always do our best and ask our customers to make allowance for such conditions.

SECOND CROP SEED POTATOES.

For a number of years we have been offering second crop seed potatoes, and our customers have always reported good results. The first crop all over Kentucky last season was almost a failure, but the more favorable weather during August and September produced us one of the best that we have ever grown. We have 600 or 800 bushels—all Irish Cobbler.

\$1.50 per bu.; \$1.25 per bu. in five bu. lots or over. If they are to be shipped, 5c per bu. extra for sacks or bbls. This seed is free from blight or scab.

SPRAYERS

Fifteen years ago sprayers were novelties, but each season the farmer, stockman, gardener and fruit grower is realizing more and more their necessity. Wherever flowers or fruit are grown or where mites or diseases lurk, they are being bought as everyday tools. We have therefore added to our offerings a line of sprayers known the country over as the best, believing by so doing we will benefit our customers, rather than for the small compensation we will receive from their sale.

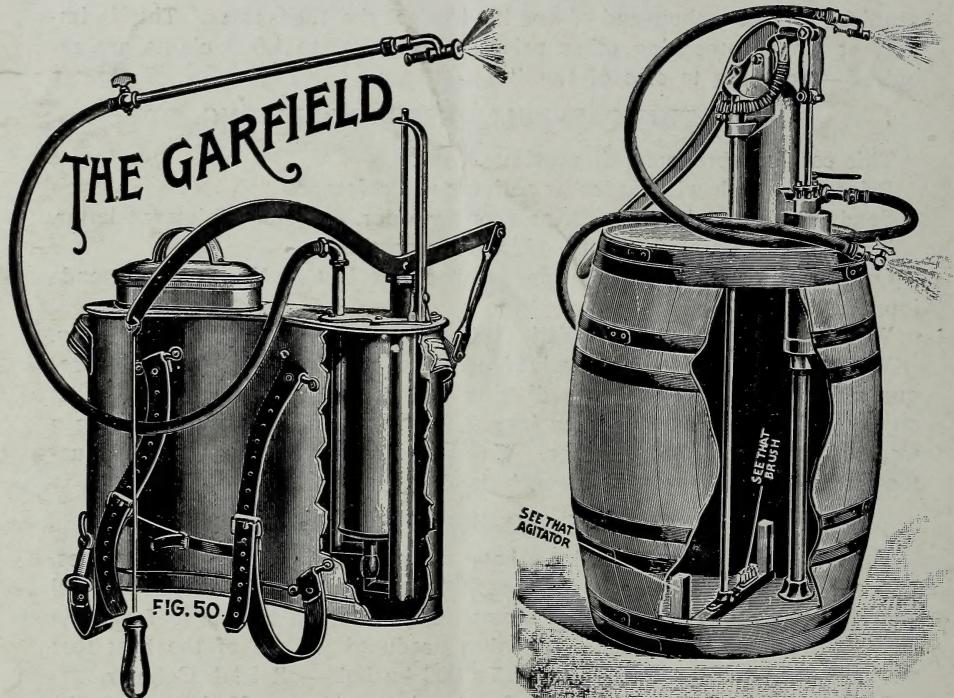
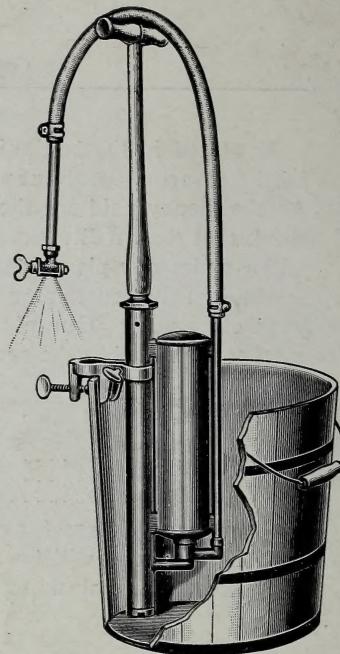
We do not carry them in stock, but when ordered through us we stand with the factory in guaranteeing them, and can make the prices interesting. We list only three types, but if these do not meet your demands we shall be glad to send you a complete catalogue upon request.

Little Gem—A small sprayer for home gardens, flowers, etc. May be adjusted to any wooden pail. Complete with hose and nozzle, **Price \$4.00**

Garfield—Knapsack sprayer holding four gallons. May be carried and used anywhere—valuable for disinfecting stables, chicken coops, or spraying fruit trees, grapes, etc. Complete galvanized, \$10.00; brass, \$14.00; Copper, \$15.

Empire King—The best barrel sprayer on the market. For orchards and whitewashing it has no equal. We have used one for 15 years or more with entire satisfaction. One spout and 10 feet of hose, \$16.00; 2 spouts and 2 (10 ft. section) hose, \$18.50. These prices do not include the cask, as they may be fitted to any alcohol or vinegar barrel. However, they may be furnished mounted at an extra cost.

All of the above pumps are made of brass and will not corrode or rust. This is important.



Notice—These pumps are cash with order as we cannot credit same. Please do not ask it of us.

H. F. HILLENMEYER & SON, :: LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY